

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5532

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0279

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, WA

SUBJ: SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON NAMIBIA

1. AT BRITISH INITIATIVE, AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN AND FRENCH DEPUTY PERM REP LE COMPT MET WITH UK PERM REP RICHARD MORNING JANUARY 26 TO DISCUSS NAMIBIA. RICHARD DESCRIBED HIS JANUARY 24 DISCUSSION ON THE SUBJECT WITH SECURITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT SALIM (TANZANIA). RICHARD HAD TOLD SALIM THAT IN VIEW OF CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES IN NAMIBIA, THE FINAL PHRASE IN OP PARA 3 OF THE CURRENT DRAFT (USUN 215) HAD TO BE OMITTED ("AND CONSTITUTES A SERIOUS THREAT TO PEACE AND SECURITY OF THE AFRICAN CONTINENT"). FURTHER, IN UK VIEW, OP PARA 4 HAD TO BE DROPPED AND THE REFERENCES THROUGHOUT THE OP PARAS TO UN "CONTROL" OVER THE ELECTIONS MUST BE REVISED.

2. ACCORDING TO RICHARD, SALIM GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT OP PARA 3 COULD BE CHANGED. HE ASKED THE BRITISH TO HAVE  
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A TRY AT ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE, BUT BRITISH PREFER NOT TO.

THEY WISH TO APPEAR TOUGH AND HOLD OUT FOR ENTIRE DELETION OF OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE IN OP PARAS 3 AND 4, BEFORE THEY AGREE TO ACCEPT FRENCH ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE. SALIM ALSO GAVE IMPRESSION THAT OP PARA 4 COULD BE DROPPED. SALIM DID NOT APPEAR WILLING AT ALL TO NEGOTIATE OVER REFERENCE TO "CONTROL," AS UN COMMISSIONER MACBRIDE HAD TOLD US THEY WOULD NOT (USUN 203).

3. RICHARD CONFIRMED TO FRENCH AND US THAT HIS APPROACH TO SALIM CONCERNING UN "CONTROL" WAS WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS, ADDING, HOWEVER, THAT HE LATER COULD APPEAR REASONABLE TO SALIM BY DROPPING THIS DEMAND AND GAINING INSTEAD ANOTHER OF HIS DESIDERATA IN THE PROCESS. IN ANY EVENT, FRENCH, UK, AND WE COULD STATE IN EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE THAT OUR OWN INTERPRETATION OF "CONTROL" IS A VERY LOOSE ONE. RICHARD ALSO SAID HE HAD TOLD SALIM THAT SALIM'S EXPLANATION THAT OP PARA 3 REFERRED NOT ONLY TO ANGOLA, BUT TO ZAMBIA, WAS NOT LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTED, DESPITE RICHARD'S OWN FEELING THAT SALIM WISHES THE GENERAL PROBLEM OF ANGOLA TO BE OMITTED FROM DEBATE. SALIM APPARENTLY ACKNOWLEDGED TO RICHARD THAT HE ANTICIPATED GREAT DISCORD AMONG AFRICANS SHOULD ANGOLA ARISE. RICHARD TOLD FRENCH AND US THAT BRITISH MIGHT ACCEPT REFERENCE TO EXISTING SITUATION IN NAMIBIA WHICH "COULD" REPEAT "COULD" CONSTITUTE A THREAT TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY. THEY COULD NOT ACCEPT "WOULD". RICHARD NOTED THAT SALIM GAVE IMPRESSION THAT THIS PROBLEM WAS NOT INSURMOUNTABLE, ADDING, HOWEVER, THAT PRICE OF OMITTING OP PARA 4 ENTIRELY WOULD BE ACCEPTING REFERENCES TO UN "CONTROL". (RICHARD DID SAY THAT SALIM'S VIEW OF WHAT CONTROL CONSTITUTES IS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM OURS, ALTHOUGH IT NEVERTHELESS WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO HAVE PHRASE OMITTED ENTIRELY.)

4. UK STRESSED THAT TRIPARTITE SOLIDARITY WAS CRUCIAL, AND ASKED THE FRENCH NOT TO PRESS THEIR ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE FOR OP PARA 3 QUITE YET. THE FRENCH AGREED. THE FRENCH SAID THAT THEY DID NOT LIKE ANY REFERENCE, "COULD" OR "WOULD", CONCERNING THREAT TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY. THEY ALSO SUGGESTED THAT IF ENTIRE REFERENCE TO CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE CAN NOT BE DELETED, A SUB-PHRASE BE INTRODUCED

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IN OP PARA 7, FOLLOWING "CONFERENCE", READING, "IF NOT MORE REPRESENTATIVE".

5. BRITISH SUGGESTED THAT ONE OF THREE SPEAK EARLY IN DEBATE BUT NEITHER FRENCH NOR WE INDICATED READINESS. RICHARD LEAVES FOR LONDON EVENING JANUARY 27 OR MORNING JANUARY 28. SPEAKERS TENTATIVELY INSCRIBED FOR JANUARY 27 INCLUDE ALGERIA (REPRESENTING NON-ALIGNED), GUINEA (HEAD

OF PARTHEID COMMITTEE AND AF CHARIRMAN FOR MONTH), ZAMBIA  
(HEAD OF COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA), AND SWAPO.

6. FRENCH JUST TELEPHONED TO SAY THEY HAD SEEN TANZANIAN  
DEPUTY PERM REP (RUPIA), WHO HAD TOLD FRENCH THAT AFRICANS  
WERE AT WORK REDRAFTING OP PARAS 3 AND 4, BUT THAT LITTLE  
CHANGE WAS TO BE EXPECTED CONCERNING REFERENCES TO UN  
"CONTROL" OVER ELECTIONS. CO-SPONSORS OF WORKING PAPER NOW  
ARE LISTED AS: BENIN, GUYANA, LIBYA, TANZANIA, PAKISTAN,  
PANAMA, AND ROMANIA.  
MOYNIHAN

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## Message Attributes

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